

March 10, 2014

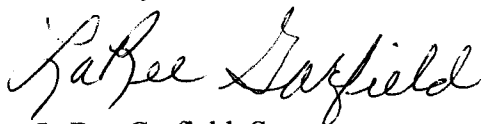
Mike Silva
Dept. Of Natural Resources
Division of Water Rights
PO Box 146300
Salt Lake City, UT 84114

Dear Mike:

Enclosed please find the Minutes of the Cedar Valley Distribution System annual meeting for 2014, together with an invoice for my secretarial services.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



LaRee Garfield, Secretary
Cedar Valley Distribution System
335 S Dewey Ave
Cedar City, UT 84720

Encl.

RECEIVED
MAR 13 2014
WATER RIGHTS
SALT LAKE

MINUTES
Cedar Valley Distribution system
February 18, 2014
6:00 p.m.

Those Present: (See attached)

This meeting was called to order by Chairman Brent Jones. He then turned the time to Mike Silva from the State Engineer's Office. Mike introduced himself and indicated that he works on about 14 water systems throughout the State. He said that they had brought maps of the areas around here and that Kurt Vest, who works here in the Cedar Regional Office, had been involved with the mapping project. Mike then introduced others who were in attendance from the State Office, Jared Manning, Assistant State Engineer for Field Services, and Kurt Moses. He expressed appreciation for the large crowd which was in attendance and for their interest in the State Office and what they have going on. He also commented that this is the first time that mapping has been done in this area and that this would be discussed later in the meeting. He then turned the time back to Chairman Brent Jones.

Brent said that this meeting has been held annually for over 50 years, and that we usually had 10-15 people attend. He expressed appreciation for the large number of people in attendance tonight. He then asked Secretary LaRee Garfield to read the Minutes of the 2013 meeting. After the Minutes were read, Brent asked if there were any questions on the Minutes. There being no questions, he called for a motion to approve the 2013 Minutes. Ramon Prestwich moved for approval of the Minutes; Deb Bauer seconded; Minutes approved as read.

Brent then asked Commissioner Sam Bauer to give his report. Sam reported that we had a below average water flow for the second year in a row. The stream peaked on April 30th at 149 c.f.s.. The flow remained low during the year except for the thunderstorm floods. The 2014 water year doesn't look very good; there's very little snow pack on the mountain. The pond still needs to be flushed out two or four times a day, especially during the high flow, to wash out the sand buildup. Every time the pond is flushed, four irrigation companies lose water. Measuring the water in the Southwest Field is still a problem. The Commissioner has in his possession the following: One, four-drawer filing cabinet and one Dell laptop computer.

Brent asked if there were any questions on the Commissioner's Report. Paul Nelson asked what the problem is with the Southwest Field water, and Sam said that there is no flume there. Ramon Prestwich said that there is a flume, but the City has a walking path over it, and it cannot be accessed. Brent said that we need to talk to the City to see if this problem can be resolved. Ramon said if we had a floating device to measure the water, we could take care of the problem. The bypass flow is difficult to measure, and it goes back into the irrigation companies. Brent then called for a motion to accept the Commissioner's Report. Leon Matheson so moved; John Sherratt seconded; Report approved as presented.

Brent then asked Mike Silva to present the report from the Division of Water Rights. Mike said

that the maps which we have here tonight are the result of two or three years of work. He commented that funds received from the water users pay the expenses of the Distribution System. State workers are paid from tax payer monies. Jared said that the State Engineer regulates 32 river systems in the State, each with a Commissioner, and there are also three underground systems which the State Engineer regulates, Enterprise/Beryl, Parowan, and Milford Valley. The water table is getting lower, and the ground water in those areas is being mined. The mapping system sets a base line on what the water usage is over the years. The Enterprise/Beryl area has a good water management plan to address the problem of the declining water table. In the Cedar Valley, we are seeing a decline, and, at some point in time, we will need a water management plan for this area. Cedar Valley has both surface water and underground water. The best way to regulate ground water is by mapping it. Sam regulates the surface water, and we will need to have a ground water Commissioner. Jared stated that near the end of this meeting, we will need to set a budget for the surface water as well as the ground water budget. Monte Rugebregt has been hired by the State as the ground water Commissioner. He will work with Sam but will mainly work with the maps. Mike said that there is a limit on the water rights one may use. In this valley, it is four acre feet per acre, and most people who pump do not use this much. The idea is to keep the water rights on the acreage it is allotted to. Ed Alger asked if someone else could take the water not being used, and Mike said that could not be done. Mike showed some graphs which showed how the water elevations are shaping up. 2011 was a good water year, but 2012 was not, and the elevations were down. 2013 was not a good water year. Suggestions were made by individuals attending the meeting that perhaps the landowners involved could get together and decide among themselves how to better manage their water, and Jared commented that by mapping the acreage, a lot of the problems would be taken care of, and there will be no cuts of water for 20 years.

Jared stated that our purpose for being here tonight is to set a budget to pay the new ground water Commissioner to continue to map the area. The total budget will be looked at, and each person will pay their portion of the budget as determined by acreage. Mike discussed the 2013 Financial Statement. Our beginning balance was \$8,758.92, and we had receipts in the amount of \$9,515.90. Our expenditures totaled \$9,160.29, and we had an ending balance of \$9,114.53, as of December 31, 2013. We had budgeted for \$9,768.00 in expenditures, but expended only \$9,160.29, so we had an item balance of \$607.71. The 2013 assessment was \$9,800.00. Brent asked if there were any questions on the Financial Report, and there appeared to be none. He then called for a motion to approve the Financial Report. The motion was made and seconded and unanimously carried.

The Delinquent Assessments were then discussed. Most of them were small amounts and were only one year old. The Nathan LeBaron account will be taken care of.

Brent said that we now need to prepare a budget for 2014. Jared said that the budget will be set, and assessments will be sent out by the State. He asked for input from those present. Monte will work with the ground water users in the valley. The State has offered him a salary of \$8,000.00 for this first year. This figure is in line with the salaries paid to the ground water Commissioners

in the other three areas, based on their acreage. Jared showed a copy of the Commissioner's Report from the Enterprise/Beryl area. There is a lot of work associated with the job and a lot of bookkeeping involved. Jared said that the Commissioners will be asked to track their hours this year. Brent commented that we could not continue to keep going the way we are going, and the changes we have discussed are necessary at this time. Lynn Nelson moved that Monte's salary for this year be set at \$8,000.00; motion seconded and approved. The 2014 budget was then discussed., and a total budget of \$19,146,00 for the ground and surface water users was approved. Mike commented that we may assess for a lesser amount, as we have a little over \$9,000.00 remaining in our account. Paul Nelson moved that we assess on \$18,000.00; Dennis Porter seconded; motion carried.

Brent said that we need to elect a new Chair and two Board Members. Mike invited any pumpers present to become members of the Board, along with the current surface water users. He said that the State would like at least three additional Board members. Valyn Sherratt volunteered to serve; Barbara Matheson seconded; Dennis Porter volunteered to serve; Paula Porter seconded; Stephanie Gutierrez volunteered to serve; Linda Kaczmar seconded. These three individuals will serve with Chairman Brent Jones, Ramon Prestwich, and Paul Nelson, current Chair and Board Members.

Mike gave his email address for those who may have questions or concerns and would like to contact him. It is mikesilva@ut.gov. He stated that all information as well as a recording of this meeting will be on the State website, www.waterrights.utah.gov.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.